

In the claims:

17. (currently amended) A system for heating a circuit board comprising:
a support for supporting the circuit board in a working position along a support plane;
a heater mounted for heating one side of the circuit board; and
a first hollow elongated tube mounted so that the heater is between the circuit board and the first tube, the first tube being disposed in a plane substantially parallel to the support plane and having a plurality of holes oriented so that when a gas is introduced into the first tube, the gas is directed through the holes, past the heater, and toward the circuit board.

18. (original) The system of claim 17, wherein the heater includes a plurality of parallel heating tubes and the hollow elongated tube is transverse to the heating tubes.

19. (original) The system of claim 18, further comprising a second hollow elongated tube with holes, the second tube being mounted parallel to the first tube.

20. (previously added) The system of claim 19, wherein the holes of the first hollow elongated tube are at locations halfway between pairs of adjacent heating tubes.

21. (previously added) The system of claim 17, further comprising a plurality of additional hollow elongated tubes with holes, each of the plurality of additional tubes being mounted parallel to the first tube.

22. (previously added) The system of claim 17 further comprising an air supply coupled to each end of the first tube for providing air at each end.

23. (currently added) The system of claim 17 wherein the first tube is made of black anodized aluminum.

24. (previously amended) A method of heating a circuit board, the method comprising:
supporting the circuit board in a working position along a support plane;
heating a side of the circuit board with a heater;

positioning a first hollow elongated tube so that the heater is between the circuit board and the first hollow elongated tube, the first hollow elongated tube being in a plane substantially parallel to the support plane,

wherein the first hollow elongated tube has a plurality of holes, the plurality of holes oriented to face the circuit board; and

introducing a gas into the first hollow elongated tube.

25. (previously amended) The method of claim 24 further comprising directing the gas through the holes, past the heater, and toward the circuit board.

26. (previously added) The method of claim 25 further comprising positioning a second hollow elongated tube, parallel to the first hollow elongated tube, and directing the gas through the second hollow elongated tube.

27. (previously amended) A system for heating a circuit board comprising:
a support for supporting the circuit board in a working position;
a heater having a plurality of parallel heating tubes mounted for heating one side of the circuit board; and

means for directing a gas past the heater and toward the circuit board.

28. (previously added) The system of claim 27 wherein the means for directing a gas is comprised of a first hollow elongated tube with holes.

29. (previously added) The system of claim 28 wherein the parallel heating tubes are transverse to the first hollow elongated tube with holes.

30. (previously added) The system of claim 29 further comprising a second hollow elongated tube with holes, the second tube being mounted parallel to the first tube.

31. (previously added) The system of claim 30 wherein the holes of the first hollow elongated tube are at locations halfway between pairs of adjacent heating tubes.

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32. (previously added) The system of claim 31 further comprising an air supply coupled to each end of the first tube for providing air at each end.

33. (previously added) The system of claim 32 wherein the first tube is made of black anodized aluminum.

34. (previously added) The system of claim 27 wherein the means for directing a gas is a plurality of hollow elongated tubes with holes, the plurality of tubes being mounted in parallel and transverse to the heating tubes.